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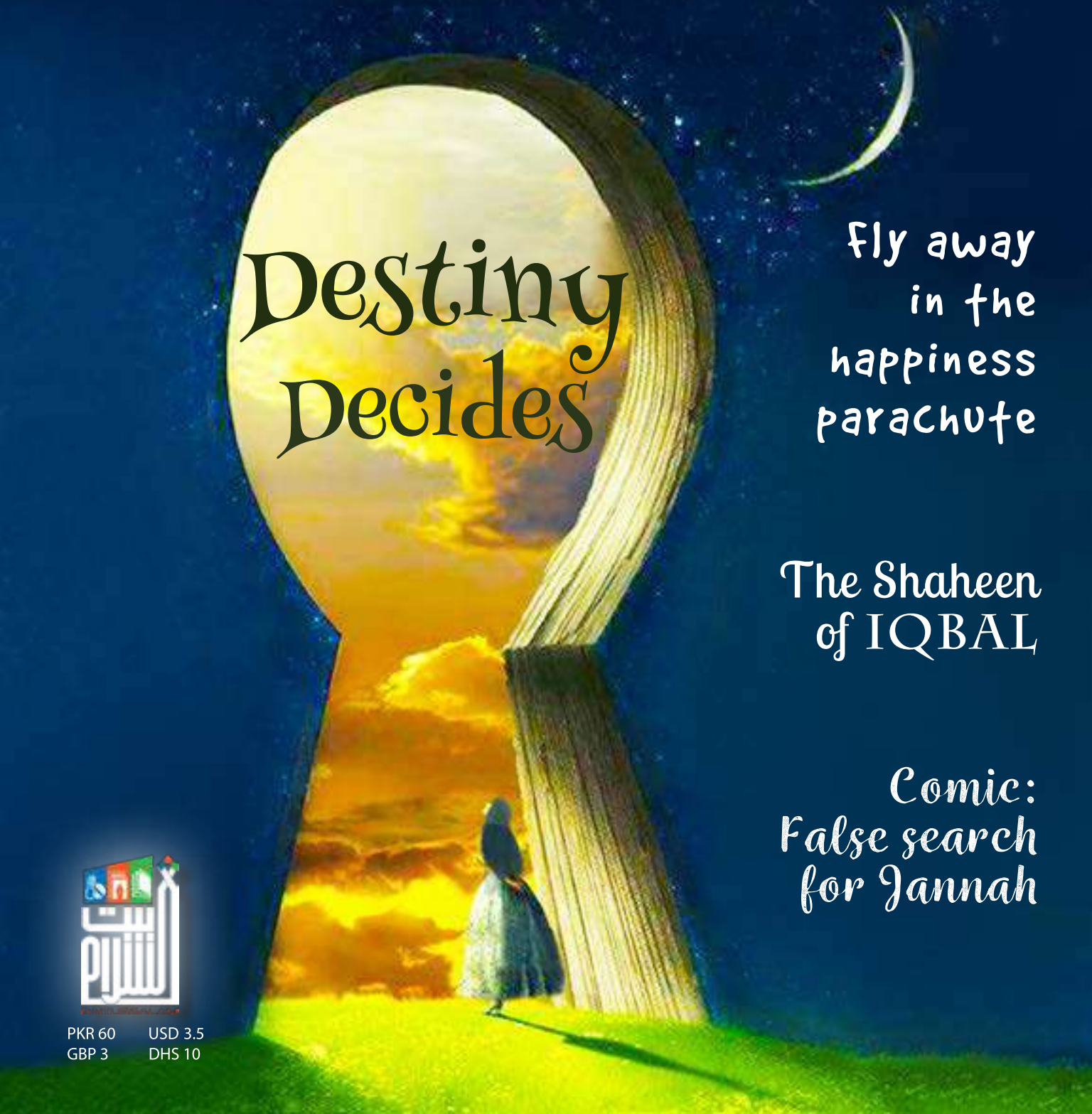
celebrating the joys of submission!

radiance

LIVING AND LOVING THE YOUNG MUSLIM LIFESTYLE



Destiny Decides

Fly away in the happiness parachute

The Shaheen of IQBAL

Comic: False search for Jannah

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ed's den

Fly away in the happiness parachute

Do you have a lot of friends and family but still feel lonely? It's a common experience nowadays because having lots of superficial and casual friends, especially on the social media, leads to lack of happiness and increase in societal pressures. However, there are things we can do to improve our current relationships so that we're less lonely and have increased level of happiness too at the same time; flying away in the happiness parachute.

According to several scientific studies, people feel greater happiness when at least one of their relationship, be it with a mother, a father, a friend or anyone else, has the following four components: time together (time is the greatest gift you can give to others), shared activities, open communication and support. It is interesting to note that it is not when you are the one at the receiving end, but when you are the one providing it to others that your feelings of happiness increase. Moreover, it also decreases mortality and prolongs life.

It only takes one relationship with all the four components to decrease loneliness and increase happiness so imagine if all our valued relationships have these four components!

Some people think that being religious means having a frown on your face, serious looks and not bothering to talk to anyone. While Islam is such a balanced religion, it teaches us just the opposite of these: a smiling face, affectionate looks and cheerful conversations with others.

On the other hand, cases of depression and suicide are on the rise - things strongly forbidden in our deen. Even if all the world goes against us, what do we have to lose when the King of all the worlds is with us. Why do we lose heart the instance someone says anything bad to us, criticises or ignores us? Such negative thoughts do more harm to us than to anyone else as we are the ones who carry their burden on our hearts, the result of which ripens into many scary health diseases too.

Research studies have repeatedly shown that being happy leads to:

Better Physical Health – Happy people typically have less cardiovascular problems, lower blood pressure, increased immunity with less infections, and better appetite control with healthier weight ranges.

Better Mental Health – Happy people have fewer episodes of depression, anxiety, panic attacks, and insomnia and experience more compassion, optimism and high self-esteem.

Improved Relationships – Happy people enjoy better communication, more understanding, and higher levels of satisfaction in their family, at work, and socially.

Greater Wealth – Happy people do much better in their jobs/careers than their equivalent unhappy counterparts. They tend to earn more and be more engaged and productive.

Positive Feelings – Happy people report increased emotional well-being, gratitude, vitality, calmness, courage, desire to learn new things, and satisfaction in life.

We usually think that if we have better health, improved relationships, greater wealth THEN we will be happy, when it is actually the other way round - being happy attracts them all. So stop thinking about all the negativity around you, forgive others wholeheartedly, and truly thank Allah ﷻ for the bounties He has granted you which millions wish for but can't have.

Easier said than done, but yes we need to be bold in spirit, generous by heart, smell the freshly fallen petals on the dewy grass of our lives and recognise the innately beautiful souls that we are. No longer would you be ever found saying, 'I wonder when would I be happy' as you already would be In'sha'Allah

Was'salam,

Bint Zahid

Editor.radiance@gmail.com

Sweet whispers

Hadhrat Maulana Abdul Sattar Hafizahullah's enriching spiritual discourse has the remedy for our duas to be answered by our Lord

A major and often undermined step towards spiritual development and improvement is dua. Dua is us talking to Allah ﷻ, asking Him, and believing that we will not be returned empty handed. The dua being referred to is not the monotonous Arabic duas we learnt as children and just quickly recite after every prayer; many times, not even understanding the meaning, not knowing what it is that we are asking of Allah ﷻ. This dua is actually asking Allah ﷻ and asking Him repeatedly. Asking and begging with unwavering insistance, refusing to put down our hands until we are blessed with what we want. This is how we should make dua, like a stubborn infant who is crying and does not cease until he gets what he wants. Our duas should be like those infants crying; unstoppable and continuous, until we are pardoned by Him.

An often occurring thought of hesitance and shame is what prevents a lot of us from making dua as we have sinned too gravely; how and why will Allah ﷻ forgive us?

We should never doubt the capacity of Allah's mercy. The (dust and sand) particles in the land are less, the drops of the oceans are less; but if our sins fill up the earth and reach the skies too, and then we go to Allah with tears of regret, He will forgive us. Allah ﷻ is most Merciful and most Generous. There is no disappointment in that kingdom, Allah ﷻ is that King who does not return even the most sinful slaves empty-handed. And while there is no disappointment for anyone, there certainly is deprivation for those who do not regret their sins.

So dear fellow ummatis, do not let these blessed moments of our life pass by without getting closer to Allah, do not let these precious hours with our parents pass by without attaining Jannah through their Khidmah. Ask of Allah, continuously and sincerely, say to Him, "O Allah, we've made astaghfar, we've asked You for forgiveness, now You are the one Who will bless us with the taufeeq of escaping from all sins, we have entrusted our prevention from sinning to You as well."

These should be the words of a Momin; that O Allah, it is because of Your bounty that we have done well, and it will be because of your taufeeq that we will prevent ourselves from sinning

1. The Amazing Computer

A store has on sale a computer and word processor small enough to fit in your pocket. It can add, multiply, subtract, divide, and write in all languages. A delete device will correct any error. No electricity is required to operate it. The price? Only a few cents! How can the store make a profit by selling it so cheap?

2. The escape

Two convicts are locked in a cell. There is an unbarred window high up in the cell. No matter if they stand on the bed or one on top of the other they can't reach the window to escape. They then decide to tunnel out. However, they give up with the tunneling because it will take too long. Finally one of the convicts figures out how to escape from the cell. What is his plan?

3. On the Island

You are on an island in the middle of a lake. The lake is in a remote part of the country and there has never been a bridge connecting the island to the mainland. Every day a tractor and wagon gives hay rides around the island. Puzzled as to how the tractor had gotten onto the island, you ask around and find out that the tractor was not transported to the island by boat or by air. Nor was it built on the island. Explain how the tractor got there?

Answer

1. The computer is a wooden pencil with an eraser!
2. His plan is to dig the tunnel and pile up the dirt to climb up to the window to escape.
3. It was driven over in winter, when the lake was frozen.

The question for this issue in the expressions section was,
"Who do you think is really successful? Why?"

Is success having lots of money, toys, clothes, fame, rewards and status in society? Or is it something else.. something that we all should really struggle and work hard for.

We make dua that Allah Subhanahu wa Taala may bless us all with the never ending happiness of true Success. Ameen.

Radiance asks our readers a question each month. If you want your answer to be featured in the next issue in the 'Expressions' section, then send it to radianceteam8@gmail.com along with your name, age and country before 31st July' 2018.

Next issue's question is: **"What is one thing you would like to learn to do well and why?"**

Fatima Waqas, 5years

I think the person who is really successful is he who offers Salah everyday.

Aiman Amir, 9 years

Real success is having been kept away from the hellfire and coming towards Allah and entering Paradise.

Omama Anees

Success doesn't lie in this world as we all will die one day, this is why we should work for success in the Aakhirah.

Muhammad Abdullah Taha, Malaysia

Success is gaining a place in the highest level of Jannah and making our good deeds our ticket to Jannah.

Arwa Chapra

I believe that success is in Salah, success is in Quran and success is in following the sunnahs of the Prophet ﷺ. Being steadfast in all these will make us successful in this world and in the hereafter.

Farwa Tahir, 6 years

Successful people are those who believe in Allah, respect their elders, always speak the truth and recite the Quran.

Muhammad Taha Junaid

Successful people are those who recite the Quran, offer Salah and follow the path prescribed by Allah ﷻ.

Iqra Muhammad Amir, Riyadh

A successful person is he who is always conscious of staying away from sins and who is worried about doing good to earn his Jannah and readily asks for forgiveness whenever he makes a mistake.

Maryam Yumna bint Jazeel; Rabigh, Saudi Arabia

Whoever has been kept away from the hellfire and admitted to paradise has really succeeded as Allah ﷻ is our Creator and He defines the successful in the Quran: "And whoever is removed away from the Fire and admitted to Paradise, he indeed is successful." (Surah Ale-Imran: 185)

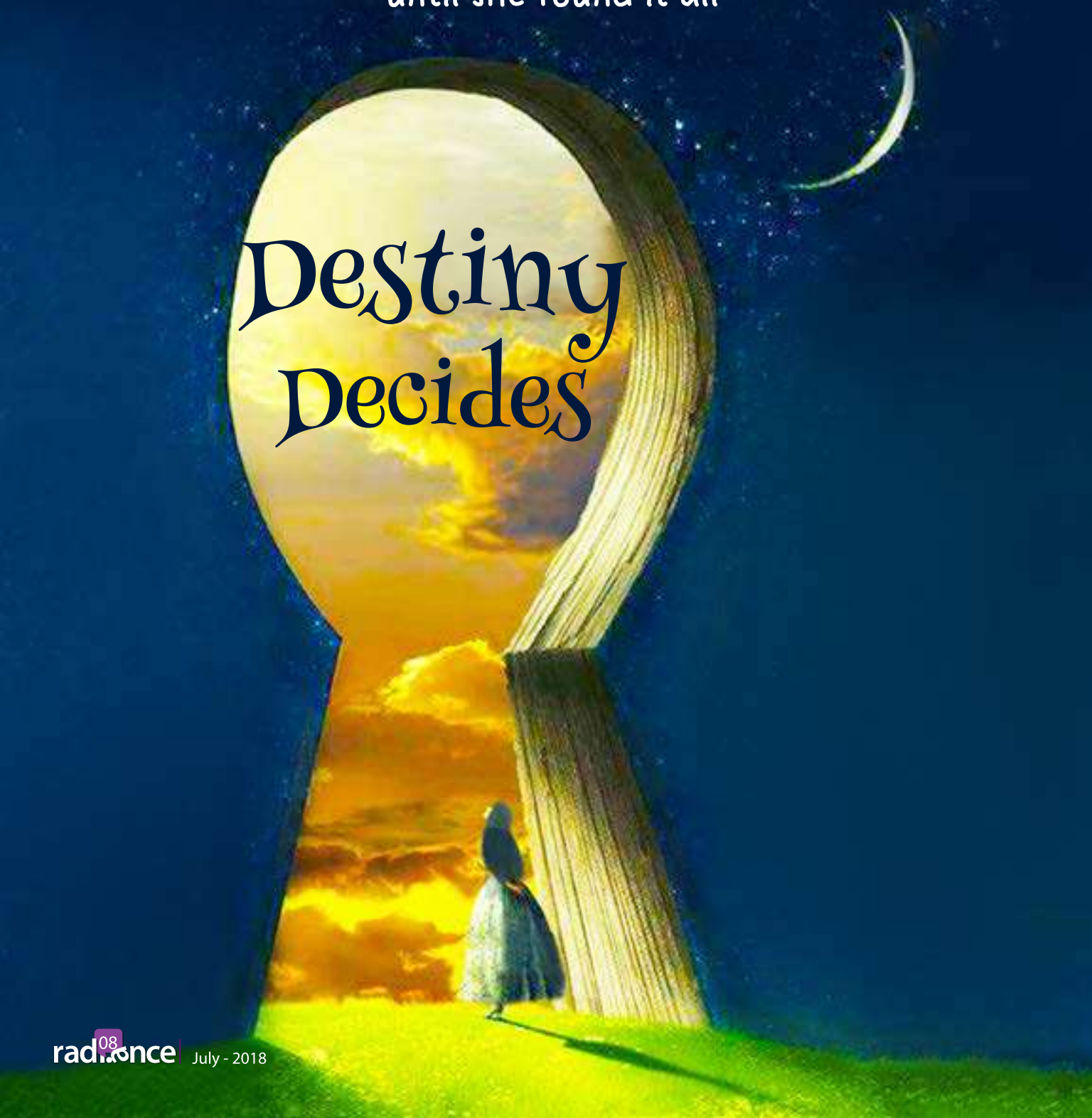
Amir ul Haque, 3.5 years

A successful person is he who offers prayers, does not watch TV and does good deeds.

dear diary

Being one of the best students, Asiya Marfani couldn't believe she wasn't admitted in medical school and what was the wisdom behind it... until she found it all

Destiny Decides



They say what's destined for you will reach you.

It takes me back to the time when I started my MCAT journey and went on pushing myself and straining my nerves for almost an year. It was an all-round journey where I learnt not only a lot about education but life in general. From having those tiresome, super-hyped days, to getting all those nervous breakdowns and adrenaline rushes almost twice a month, I kept on trying my best to maintain the calm within me, to normalise my sore and fatigued mental state.

There were countless days when I had terrible fights with my peers and siblings. I often resisted fun just because I had to study. There were countless moments when I felt like giving up and felt choked but after all these periods of unease, I always came out stronger and more energetic for I had a dream to realise.

It wasn't only me who was struggling through this, many of my friends too were fighting their fears, insecurities, exhaustion, burden and restless days.

So many students just slept to dream about themselves being clad in white coats with stethoscopes around their necks and woke up only to make sure that they are working hard enough to fulfill the expectations of people attached with them.

Along this whole journey we were all there for each other and were yet apart because it was a time when according to society our future had to begin and we had to think solely about ourselves.

Time passed slowly and steadily and the aptitude test took place. Thus, many of us entered into a wilderness of shame and disappointments. Quite a few participating in this race had succeeded and got admitted in their desired medical universities, feeling ecstatic while the rest were left to deal with painful thoughts of failure .

Three months post the aptitude test had been a survival phase for the students who didn't make it through to any medical university on merit. I was amongst them too. I too had to deal with a lot of disappointing and sympathetic remarks which made me feel weak and impatient.

There were many people during that time who stood by me and tolerated my emotional personality, who told me that probably all this held good for myself and kept on nurturing me with positive and constructive vibes. Now, as I look back and contemplate the whole period I had been through, I wonder what good it held for me? What purpose Allah ﷻ had behind that test?

There are so many questions yet unanswered but standing here, having my first semester of psychology finished, I can promptly and happily say that this has all helped in developing me, evolving the better person within me, leading me to something which has been always 'my thing' (therapy).

I often resisted fun just because I had to study.

Therapy! I just realised that I was made for this. It was calling me, I was destined to go ahead with it and I understood that I couldn't have gotten anything better than this because it was Allah's plan for me and he wanted to give it to me this way. He wanted to teach me, He wanted to make me feel the importance of mental stability in life, he wanted me to learn life through this.

And finally, finally he made me realise that: "They plan and Allah plans and surely Allah is the best of planners." (8:30)

Lastly, I can't express how grateful I am for being chosen for this field.

A big shout-out to all my fellows who went through the similar phase. Let me tell you that you got what Allah had destined for you and that is surely the best for you. You will surely find that out, sooner or later

The Shaheen of IQBAL

Taking inspiration from the classical poetry of Allama Iqbal, lets learn to fly like a Shaheen with Faria Adil

Allama Muhammad Iqbal, the poet of East, enjoys a dominant position among the poets of South-Asia because in his poetry he presented a completely different set of ideas as compared to other poets who rarely went beyond the idea of explaining love, deprivation, destitution and so on.

But Iqbal ﷺ has the most powerful, influential and inspiring notions which he depicted in his poetry. If I am to entitle Iqbal's poetry, I would name it as "Khudi (self-esteem)".

Throughout his poetry, he explained the concept of Khudi which is as much applicable in our lives as it was back then. He depicted a Mard E Momin, an ideal Muslim, an inspiration for the so called ideal world.

And to explain it he often narrates the example of Shaheen, a symbol of self-esteem, pride, dignity and self-assurance.

Almost everyone knows that Shaheen is used as a symbol of competencies which Iqbal wants to see in his nation and youth, but hardly anyone knows what are the faculties of Shaheen which makes it unconquerable.

So today's topic is all about Shaheen of Iqbal.

While explaining the propensities of Shaheen, Javed Iqbal (late), the son of Allama Iqbal ﷺ, highlights five qualities which make Shaheen unique and to be like Shaheen means to opt for such qualities (surely not to put on wings and start flying). These

The Things That Matters

By Amnah Mohsin

We all have different habits
We all have different traits
We use different abilities
To ride on our fate.

We all have different powers
We all have different brains
If one can do some thing
Does not mean we all can.

We all have different feelings
We all have different hearts
If a thing can put two together
The same can break someone apart.

We all have different pasts
We all have different pains
We cannot understand
Through what others have.

We all have different thoughts
We all have different minds
To each other's personal world
We can be called blind.

We all have different jobs
We all have different duties
We work with different skills
To fulfill our responsibilities.

We all have different bodies
We all have different features
We customise our life style
According to our nature.

We all have different motos
We all have different aims
We are unique the way we are
We cannot be the same.

We all have different mind-set,
We all have different characters
The way we treat others
Is actually what matters.

comic

False searc

Concept by Z

Artwork by Zaw

h for Jannah

Zawjah Zia
jah Jahangir

Riddles

1
What gets bigger every time you take from it?

2
Some months have 30 days and some have 31. How many months have 28 days?

3
Where is the only place today comes before yesterday?

4
Which word do people in Scotland always pronounce hesitantly?

5
What is in seasons, seconds, centuries and minutes but not in decades, years or days?

Answers

1: A hole

2: All

3: Dictionary

4: Hesitantly

5: The letter n

Spot The Difference
Can you find all 12???

ing at because they see it from slightly different positions, a few inches apart. The brain combines these two views to figure out the distance to the object. That gives a person 3-D vision (depth perception). Seeing with just one eye gives the brain less information about distance and, as a result, less accurate depth perception.

homework helper

True or false?

answers.

11. True or false? Water is an example of a chemical element.

12. True or false? The study of plants is known as botany.

13. True or false? Mount Kilimanjaro is the tallest mountain in the world.

14. True or false? Floatation separates mixtures based on density.

15. True or false? Herbivores eat meat.

16. True or false? Atomic bombs work by atomic fission.

17. True or false? Molecules are chemically bonded.

18. True or false? Spiders have six legs.

19. True or false? Kelvin is a measure of temperature.

20. True or false? The human skeleton is made up of less than 100 bones.

Answers

1. False
2. False - Pacific Ocean
3. True
4. False - Fish
5. False - 2
6. True
7. True
8. False - Mercury
9. True
10. True
11. False
12. True
13. False - Mount Everest
14. True
15. False
16. True
17. True
18. False - 8
19. True
20. False - 206

fresh artists

Muhammad Ayaan Ovais

Abdullah Omar
Bay view Academy

Hafsah Armoghan
class 11.C

Muhammad Abdullah bin Junaid
Scholastic Islamiah, Lahore.

Ayesha khalid Lakhani
Generation School

Hanoof Shahid Jugnu
6 Years

Humna Faisal

Yousuf Faisal

Bilal Adil
5 Years

Ahmad Shoaib

Mahnoor Shiraz
6 Years

Sahla Aman
6 Years

Hadhrat Hassan bin Ali رضي الله عنه

Zawjah Junaid Mukaty has the esteemed story of the beloved grandson of Rasulullah ﷺ to astound us and leave us in awe

Taqi, Zahid, Zaki, Sayyad, Wali, Tayyab, Mujtaba, Nasih, Naqi: all these titles were given to the eldest son of Hadhrat Fatima bint Muhammad ﷺ and Hadhrat Ali bin Abi Talib رضي الله عنه.

Hassan is from Husun which means beauty, attraction and grace. He was exactly like his name. He resembled his grandfather, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in looks. After the sad demise of the Prophet ﷺ, people used to remember the times spent with their beloved Prophet ﷺ whenever they met Hadhrat Hassan رضي الله عنه. It is reported that Hadhrat Abu Hurrairah رضي الله عنه used to cry whenever he saw Hadhrat Hassan رضي الله عنه as the departure of the Prophet ﷺ was at times unbearable for his devoted companions.

He was born in the blessed month of Ramadan in 3rd or 4th Hijra. His grandfather, Hadhrat Muhammad ﷺ did his Aqeeqah and gave charity of silver equal to the weight of his hair. He had a very impressive lineage in this world and he has a very important place in Akhirah too. He and his brother, Hadhrat Hussain, will be the leaders of the youth in Jannah whereas their mother will be the leader of the women.

As a Grandson

Hadhrat Muhammad ﷺ was very fond of his grandson. He went daily to his daughter's house to meet him. Many narrations and Ahadith report about the love he had for Hadhrat Hassan and the way he treated him. He used to bend down to the ground and make him ride on his back, he also picked him up on his shoulders or made him sit on his lap. His affection is evident from the dua that the beloved Prophet ﷺ made for Hadhrat Hassan رضي الله عنه, "O Allah, I love him, so please love him and love those who love him."

Prophet ﷺ never scolded children, he always tried to win their hearts. Hadhrat Hassan رضي الله عنه was extremely attached to his grandfather and deeply observed his every act. Though Prophet ﷺ left the world when Hadhrat Hassan was merely eight years old, but his upbringing in these years was enough to turn him into a mannerly, cultured and civilized man.

High Character

Hadhrat Hassan رضي الله عنه was a reflection of his grand-

Hadhrat Hassan ﷺ was a reflection of his grandfather and parent's upbringing. People near to him reported that when he spoke, he spoke beautifully. When he stayed silent, his silence was gracious.

father and parent's upbringing. People near to him reported that when he spoke, he spoke beautifully.When he stayed silent, his silence was gracious. When he gave something, he gave whole heartedly. When he answered, he answered rhetorically. Hadhrat Hassan's speech was always soft and his heart was tender. He never said a bad word or degraded anyone. Hadhrat Abdullah bin Awn, a Tabaee, said, "There is no one like Hassan in speech. I don't like him to be silent."

Piety was his main attribute. His every action was to please Allah ﷻ, no matter if for that he had to step down from his own rights too. He was given Caliphate which he surrendered to Hadhrat Ameer Muawiyah in order to maintain peace and to please Allah.

He had some great qualities of the Prophet ﷺ as he did not only resemble him in looks but in nature too. Once Hadhrat Muhammad ﷺ said, "Hassan has got my knowledge and my looks." He spent most of his time in worshipping Allah and it is also reported that he read Surah Kahaf every night.

Thus, Hadhrat Hassan ؓ was a huge fruitful tree which was nurtured and looked after by Prophet ﷺ himself during his childhood.

Famous Quotes

Hadhrat Hassan's intelligence also showed that he was a near and dear one to the Prophet ﷺ. His eloquent nature can be easily judged by some of his quotes which teach us very important lessons of life. Some of his quotes are mentioned below.
*He was once asked what is blessing. He replied, "Mercy, piety and abstinence tell that the blessings of the world."

*At another time he was asked what is tolerance. He replied, "To restrain anger and to control one's self is tolerance."

*About foolishness he said, "To follow cheap trends and to have companionship with the misguided is foolishness."

*He was asked what misery is. He replied, "Whatever is in your hand you regard it as esteem and whatever you spend you consider it as debt."

As a soldier

Hadhrat Hassan ؓ was very young during the caliphates of Hadhrat Abu Bakar ؓ and Hadhrat Umar ؓ. But at the time of caliphate of Hadhrat Usman, he had grown into a brave young man like his brave father. Then he took part in the Battle of Tabaristan (a province in Northern Iran) which was won by the Muslims.

Children

Hadhrat Hassan ؓ was blessed with twelve sons and five daughters. Four of his sons got martyred with Hadhrat Hussain in Karbala. His lineage continued from only two sons, Hadhrat Hassan Masna and Hadhrat Zaid bin Hassan.

Death

Hadhrat Hassan ؓ died at a very early age of only forty five years in fifty or fifty one Hijra. History says that the reason of his death was poison given to him by someone close. Hadhrat Saeed bin Aas led his funeral prayers and he was laid to rest in Jannat ul Baqee beside his beloved mother. On his death, Hadhrat Abu Hurraira ؓ said, "Today the beloved of the Prophet ﷺ died."

May Allah shower his blessings upon our Prophet ﷺ and his household and may we all be their neighbours in Paradise. Ameen.

fresh pens

Hijabi Headlines

By Muhibah Nadeem
Springfield School

I never knew it would be so different and so difficult but being a teenager was quite an experience in my life's journey. I thought it would be great fun, I would get more mature and responsible, but all that glitters is not gold . I don't intend to scare all eleven and twelve year olds waiting to enter their teens, but life as a teenager is not at all as easy as it seems. I know it's only my first year but a part of something can give us a taste of the rest.

To start off, I felt like an adult and it all felt like a whole new start. I replaced my babyish, pink and purple themed décor with aesthetic black and blue one, I got conscious of my appearance, I started behaving like a know-it-all. However, things did not stay like that for long... I became a hijabi after turning thirteen. I resolved at that time that I would never take my hijab off, no matter what.

I thought people would interact with me more when I turn a teenager, but my excited version of everything got banished. School is the only place I look forward to because that's where I get to talk, but after the first day of school when I had turned thirteen, I changed my mind. Just because I did hijab and followed Deen with Dunya people didn't talk to me much. I didn't know what they thought but it seemed I'm making some Hijabi headlines in their minds. Perhaps they thought that I am too young to do hijab and I should enjoy life and socialise more. Little do they know that I would love to socialise and make more friends only if they accepted me as I was. People should not judge others by what they wear or what they look like. That is a problem faced by many, including two people very near and dear to me, my sister and mother. People also start observing and criticising you more and though sometimes one ignores, but often it hurts.

Hijabis have been given the same rights by Allah as others and nobody can or should suppress us. We should all stand up, be strong and confident because we are covering ourselves up with a veil, not for ourselves but for Allah. It is our responsibility to try to remove the labels such as 'extremist' and bring back the good reputation of Muslims by presenting a good character along with the outward appearance that our deen wants us to adopt. By aligning the exterior with the interior, we can help people understand the true spirit of Islam and remove misconceptions that trouble a wide majority today. May Allah ﷻ help us excel in both worlds by helping us wholeheartedly adopt all aspects of our deen. Ameen

School Uniforms

by Eisha Yaseen
VII-A
The Intellect School

Most of the schools have a specific uniform for students to wear. They are mostly to bring equality between students as well as for a few other reasons.

Due to uniforms, everyone looks the same. From other reasons, the most common is that if there were no uniforms, all the parents who are concerned that their children should look presentable would find it difficult to constantly try to arrange new and presentable clothes for them.

Another reason could be that the students are ambassadors of their school outside it. So whenever a brilliant student, donning the school's uniform will excel outside school, it will earn the school a good name and attract more people to it.

Mostly in school parties, students are allowed to wear clothes other than the uniforms. But I prefer that during such days as well the students should be wearing school uniforms as we don't know how many people can manage to get fancy clothes for their children. This is not fair with the poor students as they might feel awkward.

In conclusion, my opinion is that wearing school uniform gives the students a variety of benefits. Students are in schools for educational purposes and not to show off their outfits. Also, uniforms are there to protect the rights of the students, showing that everyone is equal.

If only we can take this lesson and not worry about our clothes outside of school too. Oh, I so wish!

4 Unbreakable Promises

The 4 Unbreakable Promises from Allah ﷻ in Quran.

1. "So remember Me; I will remember you"
(Baqarah: 152)

2. "If you are grateful, I will surely increase you [in favours]..."
(Ibrahim: 7)

3. "Call upon Me, I will respond to you..."
(Ghafir: 70)

4. "...And Allah will not punish them, while they seek forgiveness..."
(Anfaal: 33)

poster
radiance

It always matter WHAT, WHEN & HOW you say it!

radiance

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